

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 06386 231454Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00
L-03 /057 W

-----088712 232235Z /62

R 231323Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8559
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL KADUNA
USINT BAGHDAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6386

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, NI, IZ
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: NIGERIA-IRAQ BILATERAL ANNOUNCED

1. NIGERIA AND IRAQ SIGNED MAY 19 A BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION
AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING ONCE-WEEKLY 707 SERVICE BETWEEN NIGERIA AND
BAGHDAD FOR BOTH NIGERIA AIRWAYS AND IRAQI AIRWAYS, ACCORDING
TODAYS PRESS. FEW DETAILS WERE GIVEN BUT THE NIGERIAN CIVAIR
COMMISSIONER EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT BOTH AIRLINES WOULD SOON
OPERATE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THIS AGREEMENT SO WOULD
INITIALLY ASSESS IT AS JUST ANOTHER IN NIGERIA'S CONTINUING
SERIES OF FORMAL AIR AGREEMENTS WITH NUMEROUS COUNTRIES WITH
WHICH NIGERIA HAS LITTLE TRAFFIC. WE STRONGLY DOUBT THAT THERE
IS OR FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE WILL BE ENOUGH LAGOS-BAGHDAD
TRAFFIC TO WARRANT SERVICE UNLESS THE TWO FLAG AIRLINES PRE-EMPT
MIDDLE EAST AIRWAYS' RIGHTS THROUGH BEIRUT, WHICH MIGHT MAKE
SERVICE VIABLE. WE HAVE NOT CHECKED LATELY BUT THINK MEA
SERVICE REMAINS SUSPENDED.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06386 231454Z

EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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